

HOME-RUN KING COMES TO AGREEMENT WITH YANKEE CLUB

H. Leonard's COLUMN

Championship Match Depends on Condition of Leonard's Right Fist.

THE much talked of Benny Leonard-Charley White championship match isn't on March 17. Neither is it off. It all depends on Leonard's right hand. He hurt it slightly on Rocky Kansas when they met recently at the Garden, and while it was still soft, he jammed it against Pal Moran's hard head in their ten-round bout at New Orleans Saturday night. This happened in the first round, and Benny had to leave hook his way to the decision.

Leonard and Manager Billy Gibson got in from New Orleans yesterday afternoon, and to-day Gibson is awaiting the result of Dr. Rothenberg's examination of the champion's chief weapon before deciding on the bout with White. Leonard may have to try out the hand for a couple of days in gymnasium work before it can be determined whether or not it will stand the wear and tear of an assault on White. This will leave not any too much time for hard training, because meanwhile March 17 is bearing down on us.

Leonard knows, and Gibson is sure of it, that Benny needs besides good hands, something more than a hair cut and shave preparation for the Chicago lightweight. Gibson didn't see the methodical Chicagoan wear down Willie Jackson very scientifically two weeks ago and then stop him twice, but he has read all about it. He also remembers Leonard's tough session with White at Benton Harbor, Mich., when Benny had to put everything he had in a valiant endeavor to subdue him at a very critical stage of the battle.

IN view of these things Gibson can't be fairly criticized for not jumping at the March 17 date. Even though it means something like \$50,000 to the championship bank account, what is a paltry Presidential salary, even if earned in a single evening, compared to the hands of a champion?

A patched up mitt might go out of commission the first time Leonard shot with it, and depending on a single left, hooked, or otherwise, he would be taking altogether too big a gamble, especially with Charley White a left-hooking artist himself.

Meanwhile White is at home in Chicago, awaiting the all important word which will mean either one more of his many chary, or otherwise, he will be taking altogether too big a gamble, especially with Charley White a left-hooking artist himself.

GIBSON brings back a sad story of conditions at New Orleans. He says nearly everybody there is broke or worse off. And most of them are New Yorkers who went to the Crescent City for business and pleasure this winter. The races have been hard to beat. Very few players are winners, and most of the layers are out. Others, Gibson says, who can't lay their misfortune to the horses, are terribly up against it. Bill doesn't claim to be a good Samaritan or a philanthropist, but he confesses he was glad he could answer some of the appeals which found their way into his letter box at the hotel. In more cases than one, he said, they had to do with an ordinarily simple matter of a dinner for some good fellow, his wife and children. Gibson says about twenty came to the train to see him and Leonard off to New York and he doesn't think there were three dollars in the crowd. No one knows on what to blame conditions, says Billy, but they are there, worse than he has ever seen them anywhere.

HERE is talk around that Kid Norfolk is likely to make Harry Wills look as silly to-morrow night at the Garden as Wild Burt Kirby did with Frank Moran one memorable night in Jersey. When Willie licked Fred Fulton, Moran went to the ring with the clownish Kenny expecting to annihilate him with his famous Mary Ann, but he himself was made to look the more foolish of the pair before their bout was over. Norfolk is a Walcott in stature compared to Wills, and has many grotesque movements in the ring. If Harry goes chasing him as Moran waded after Kenny, his championship aspirations may suffer irreparably.

FIREMEN ATHLETES CARRY OFF HONORS IN BIG CITY GAMES

McAllister, Flying Cop, Defeated in Municipal Meet at Garden.

By Robert Boyd.
WITH a strong, well balanced team, the little limbed athletes of the New York Fire Department demonstrated their superiority over teams representing the other departments in the first indoor meet of the Municipal Athletic Activities at Madison Square Garden before an enthusiastic gathering of 3,500.

Patric Knickerbocker's "smoke eaters" had amassed a total of forty-two points, winning the William A. Cohen challenge trophy and a silk banner emblematic of the all-around athletic championship of Greater New York. The challenge trophy must be defended semi-annually and won three times to become the property of either department, while the municipal banner becomes the permanent property of the Fire Department.

The Police Department captured second place with a total of seventeen points, while the Department of Education finished third with a total of ten and the Department of Docks fourth with nine.

Bob McAllister of the Police Department, and latest athlete to shatter the 150-yard world's indoor record, also establishing new times for the intermediate distances, was the most conspicuous figure of the evening.

The "Flying Cop," starting from scratch in the 60-yard dash handicap, gave a large and fast field liberal allowances and just came within a fraction of an inch of breasting the worsted ahead of E. F. Kingsley of the Fire Department, the winner. Kingsley had a handicap of eighteen feet, but the cyclonic sprinting sensation was just getting under way when the finish was reached. Had the distance been a few more yards McAllister would have been an easy winner. The winner's time was 5 and 1-4 seconds.

In the 50-yard running event for women employees, Blanche A. Dixon of the Health Department bounded over the boards like a seasoned sprinter, defeating Sally Twobill of the Board of Education and Anna Mulhern of the Dock Department, who finished in the order named.

The 50-yard sack race went to James McCall of the Park Department. C. E. Maddox of the Fire Department was second and James McCue of the Police Department third. The time was 1 and 1-2 seconds.

Thomas Doney of the Board of Education won the high jump with 5 feet 8 inches. Louis Leznevsky of the Police Department was second with 5 feet 6 and Frank Lauterborn of the Police was third with 5 feet 5 inches.

Don Deha, with fourteen seconds allowance, won the 300-yard handicap. E. F. Kingsley of the Fire Department was second and John Sweeney of the Dock Department was third.

Chris Schreifer of the Police Department won the half-mile novel walk. P. O'Connor of the Fire Department was second and A. B. Litchman of the Fire Department was third.

In a closely contested 1,000-yard handicap David Lilley of the Dock Department won in 2:29 4-5. Joseph Sankeep of the Fire Department was second and H. Lobenz of the Finance Department was third.

Joseph Tiedeman of the Fire Department won the mile run handicap. Sol Silverstein of Public Welfare, starting from scratch, ran a great race and finished second, with Walter Van Bergen of the Fire Department third.

The runners experienced great difficulty in taking the sharp Garden turns. Spikes were not allowed and the slippery floor caused many spills. This is the first time in the history of the city that the departments have come together in an athletic meet of this kind. It is an movement to give the 80,000 members of the different city departments recreation and will be followed by semi-annual games in and outdoors.

The best of each of the different departments attended the meet. Mrs. Hyman and Mrs. John Sinnott were seen in boxes close to the track. Among the other noted city officials were John Sinnott, William Cohen, Chairman of the Committee; Murray Hulbert, Managing S. Prall and Judge Jeremiah Mahoney.

ENGLISH STAR LOSES ON SOUTHERN COURTS

PALE BEACH, Fla., Mar. 1.—Eight men reached the round before the semi-final yesterday in the annual men's singles lawn tennis tournament. Capt. Guy Westmacott of the British Army was eliminated in straight sets by J. Carlton Stoffer of Philadelphia, thereby securing the winning of the Florida title by a native born player.

AT THE MUNICIPAL GAMES

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50 YD. RUN FOR WOMEN - THE BUREAU OF REPAIRS AND SUPPLIES DONATED A PRIZE - SOME OF THE GIRLS NEEDED IT - THREE OF THEM SKIDDED

LIVE WIRES

By Neal R. O'Hara.

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If hold-out statistics are correct, there will be more sport writers than ball players reporting at training camps this spring.

Despatches state ball players are crazy over ancient Scottish pastime. They are also addicted to the old Scotch game of salting every nickel that comes in to them.

Hymie Gold is latest boxing sensation. He jingles every time he drops to the floor.

"Billiardist Has Run of 902"—Headline. Looks like a fielding average.

Braves will train this year at St. Petersburg, Fla. Climate there may not do 'em much good, but horseshoes will help 'em out.

Takes all kinds of people to make up the human race. The citizens of Leesburg, Fla., are proud that the Phillies are training in their midst.

The New York clubs haven't got the pennants cinched, but you don't notice any ticket scalpers planning vacations for next October, do you?

In going to Eagle Pass, Tex., Connie Mack is going as far South-west as he can and still stay in America. When season opens A's will drop as far South as possible and still remain in the American League.

Yale's Latest Track Marvel To Run Here in Junior Games

William Comins Will Top Mark in Sixty-Yard Event for National Title.

Local followers of athletics will have another chance to see the sprinter who surprised the athletic world a few days ago by defeating Bob McAllister, Bernie Webers and Jackson Scholz. This youngster, William A. Comins of Yale, will represent the Blue in the 60-yard championship of the National Junior Indoor Track and Field games at the 22d Regiment Armory Saturday night, and will be pitted against a field as high class as any entered for a sprint special this year. Bob McAllister, Alfred Laconey, Lafayette, Middle States sprint champion; Victor Grab of Columbia, Burt Haycock of Princeton and many others of national reputation will participate in the 60-yard event. Thus will Comins have a chance to prove the assertion of Johnny Mack, Yale's track coach, that he is one of the greatest sprinters in the game.

The entries received for the Junior meet number more than 200, according to Frederick W. Rubin, of the Amateur Athletic Union, the largest and best entry ever received for these games. Yale, Columbia, Princeton and Lafayette have sent the majority of the stars that will participate in the intercollegiate meet a week later. The best available material has been entered by the local clubs.

Yale entered a team of fourteen men, including such stars as Malcolm Douglas, winner of the two-mile international; Fred Hilles, Gilbert Chapman, Robert G. Fager, R. Aron and Ralph Jordan. Princeton will send R. M. McKim, W. M. Hitzler, R. E. Johnson, J. C. Taylor, S. C. Conger and many other stars.

The armory track will be treated with a special non-slip preparation, as has been the custom for the A. A. U. championships meet held in armories in the past, and spiked shoes will be prohibited in all events except the dash and hurdles.

The Metropolitan Association A. A. U. wrestling championships will be held at the New York A. A. U. preliminary bouts on March 14 and the finals on March 15. Entries close on March 13. The regulation Metropolitan

Question of Winning Games Is Now Up to Managers With Training Season On

Holdouts and Winter Stuff Accordingly Go Into Base-ball Discard.

By Bozeman Bulger.

THE money drawn of the player and the beetled brow of the outraged manager are scratched. The winter stuff is off. John McGraw, Miller Huggins and Wilbert Robinson are interested right now in matters of far more concern to the New York fan. They've got to win ball games—real ones.

McGraw, already at San Antonio with his clamps, must develop a successor to George Burns—some one who can keep that outfield from falling apart in the middle. Also he must tighten up his string with a couple of curve-ball pitchers. That's his worry.

If either McGraw or Huggins ever has had any misgivings about holdouts they have not said so. These fellows always have signed ahead of the game, they say. There is no reason for the belief that a demon athlete's nature will change over one winter.

Huggins's problem is to find out about Frank Baker's legs. Unless those legs can carry the infield for six weeks the Yankees will be in a jam. Baker must play at third so as take up the slack in hitting. The war clubs of Meusel and Ruth are going to be missed at the start. Also Huggins has got to find out if Mike McNally can piddle writes that much of his worry ended when Zach Wheat signed. But he has still to solve his infield problem. A lot of dead wood has got to be cut out and new stuff added. That infield has given Robbie more sleepless nights than the Brooklyn fan might imagine. Without some new life in it Uncle Wilbert fears he won't be in the running. It is at the infield that your Brooklyn manager is pointing, as our football champs would say.

The winter league sessions have closed officially. From now on it's real diamond stuff. In finding a successor to George Burns McGraw is against a tough proposition. It is much like picking some handy electrician to fill the shoes of Thomas Edison. No matter who McGraw finally assigns to the job he knows the shoes will be a C. Chaplin fit.

The boys McGraw has in mind are Bill Cunningham, a nifty youth, at that; and Shinnery, the phenom of the American Association for whom

Jack Hendricks got some important money. Also the Giants have "Ike" Boone, an outfielder from New Orleans, who was known there as "the ball hawk." Boone is said to be a good hitter, too.

But any weakness that may be suffered in the outfield by Meusel will be more than offset by added strength in the infield. That's why the trade was made. The addition of Heinie Groh gives McGraw the best infield in either league and one that ought to show up the famous \$100,000 infield of the old Athletics. Baneroff and Frisch around second and Kelley at first will add much to McGraw's smug look this summer.

The Yanks are also beset with an outfield problem, but it will be temporary. Until Ruth and Meusel serve out their terms of penal servitude for barnstorming Huggins will be nervous. He has made no serious attempt to fill those gaps, and wisely so. When Ruth and Meusel get back what would he do with the expensive newcomers?

Huggins will gamble on his wonderful pitching staff pulling the club along the first six weeks. He could use a fill-in outfielder very handsily but good outfielders are not being sold nor are they being signed at big salaries for fill-ins. One of six weeks in the mean time there is always hope of a pardon from Judge Landis.

Col. Huston, who went to Dover Hall last week, is on his way over to Hot Springs to have a talk with Ruth and Meusel about their contracts. They both say there will be no difficulty about it. "Cap" says the same thing. That ought to make it easy.

The correspondents as well as the natives at Hot Springs expressed surprise at Babe Ruth playing golf in the rain Saturday while the other players stuck to their hotels. That is exactly what makes Ruth the most valuable in all baseball. He would be valuable even if he could not pop the ball. He never lost the thrill of baseball, he never lost the thrill that goes with his trade. There is no boy in America right now more eager to play ball than Ruth and he will be just as full of it to the end of the season. The Babe's personal enthusiasm is the largest contributing factor to the Yankee winning the pennant last season. He told me once that he would rather play ball for nothing than to sit on the bench.

In sizing up Yank possibilities this spring fans and doers alike appear to have overlooked a good bet. It's going to be pretty hard to keep Johnny Mitchell out of that infield. Here is one of the fastest lads in the country—one sought by nearly every club in trades the past winter. Johnny is likely to make McNally, Baker, Ward or any of them hustle to hang on as regulars.

Jerome Defeats Nable for 30th Victory.

Frankie Jerome scored his thirty-sixth victory last night at the Star Sporting Club, winning the two judges and referee decision. Jerome's superior knowledge of the game proved too much for Sammy Nable of Harlem, the lad whom Jerome eliminated. It was great competition, clean, clever and fast. The biggest crowd ever at this club witnessed the bout. Philly 1,000 were

present. Jerome, a former professional football player, showed the best and maintained it. He was awarded the verdict, which went with the approval of the big crowd. Zolly De laun beat Phil Rosenberg in a special bout of six rounds.

Fistic News and Gossip By John Pollock

FIGHT RESULTS.

Pioneer Club—Tarzan Larkin knocked out Pat Holger, fourth round.
Sailor Mated knocked out Wolf Larch, sixth round.
Frankie Jerome beat Sammy Nable—12 rounds, decision.
Philadelphia—Tommy Loughran outpointed Bryan Downey, ten rounds.
Pennsylvania—Danny Rogers vs. Bobby Williams, ten rounds, draw.
Iowa—Ray Rastan beat Eric Knipp, ten rounds.
Ohio—Johnny Kleach outpointed Harry Krohn, 12 rounds.
Youngstown—Danny Frush knocked out Dick Loadner, fourth round.
Boston—Nate Siegel beat Eddie Shevlin, ten rounds, decision.
Youngstown—Mike Moran defeated Jack O'Brien, decision.
Ohio—Don Baxter knocked out Jack Kennedy, eighth round.

Jack Dempsey, heavyweight champion, will occupy a ring-side seat when Kid Norfolk and Harry Wills, the colored battlers, meet in the star bout of fifteen rounds at the Garden to-morrow night. Wills has been clamoring for a bout with Dempsey and will endeavor to show his worth. The colored sporting fraternity will turn out in force for the contest.

Two recent fights staged at Madison Square Garden drew the enormous sum of \$155,697.90, including the Government tax of 10 per cent. The go between champion Benny Leonard and Rocky Kansas for the lightweight title brought in \$125,907.60, while the contest between Ted Lester of Philadelphia and Hymie Gold of California, figured up \$29,730.20.

For the main bout at the next show of the Olympia A. A. of Philadelphia on Monday night, Matchmaker Scotty Monteth has signed up Joe Fritts, the lightweight, to go against Joe Benjamin of California in an eight-round go.

Dave Rosenberg of Brooklyn, who is fast becoming one of the contenders for the midweight title, will have a hard time in his next battle as he is to meet Augie Ratner in a twelve-round go at the Broadway Exhibition Association of Brooklyn Monday night.

A match has been practically clinched between Mel Coogan, the clever lightweight of Brooklyn, and Ritchie Mitchell, the hard-hitting lightweight of Milwaukee. Joe Woodman, manager of Coogan, has already factor to the Yankee winning the pennant last season. He told me once that he would rather play ball for nothing than to sit on the bench.

On account of the death a few days ago of Ernest Reich, the well known basketball player, and also brother of Al Reich, the heavyweight pugilist, Al Reich asked Matchmaker Flournoy of the Garden to release him from his contract to meet Farmer Lodge of Minneapolis in one of the three eight-round bouts to-morrow night. Matchmaker Flournoy has released Al, and has secured Capt. Bob Roper of Chicago to take his place against Lodge.

Having been unsuccessful in getting Marty Collins to meet Midget Smith, the crack local heavyweight, in a twelve-round go at the Pioneer Sporting Club boxing show on next Tuesday night, Matchmaker Charley Deserch has signed up Frankie Daly of Staten Island to meet Smith. Johnny Curran meets Jack Huston in the other twelve-round contest.

Tommy Loughran Scores Win over Downey.

PHILADELPHIA, March 1.—Tommy Loughran, nineteen-year-old sensation, continued his winning streak here last night by scoring a decisive victory over Bryan Downey, outboxing and outlasting the local champion.

RUTH SATISFIED AFTER CONFERENCE WITH COL. HUSTON

Size of 1922 Salary and Bonus Is Not Announced.

HOT SPRINGS, March 1.—Babe Ruth is showing something new in smiles. The Home-Run King, after a three-hour conference with Col. Huston, came to terms for 1922. The size of salary and bonus was not announced, but the money involved is so great that Col. Ruppert's O. K. must be received before everything is shipshape. Ruth came out of the conference room smiling broadly, and he's been that way ever since.

Col. Huston says: "Ruth, Huggins and myself came to a tentative agreement, although we didn't actually sign. Our understanding was agreeable and as a Ruth contract is some contract we decided to wait a little while and communicate with Col. Ruppert in New York."

The Colonel arrived from Dover Hall, Ga., yesterday morning. The Carl Mays situation is still steeped in deepest mystery. Huggins looked thoughtfully from his window and said that if the rain stopped, he would run up to the Majestic and have a talk with the underhand flinger. Mays made no advance on the big Colonel and the tiny manager.

Frank Baker, not given to golf, wanted to warm up yesterday, so he didn't have to coach Al Devermer into the alley at the side of the Yankee headquarters for an hour's flipping of the ball back and forth. Baker says, his injured leg has come around to splendid in great style.

All the athletes grumbled over this beastly day. Rain fell all night and with never a letup, finally turning into an icy sleet that made walking dangerous, and covering the surrounding trees with a brilliant network of icicles.

Ruth, Bush, Schang, Hoyt, Shawkey and Scott glared from the big lobby windows and could see no beauty in Jack Frost's amazing handiwork.

Cheated of their beloved golf, they were blind to nature's frozen charms. Huggins sent for Bob Shawkey this morning and handed over the ringmaster's whip temporarily. Bob is now boss of the squad.

He is to keep the athletes here until the end of next week. Ruth is the only exception. "Huggins, who hopes to leave for New Orleans some time to-morrow, said that he would ask Ruth to report at the training camp on March 11 or 12, as he would be a big attraction in the first two exhibition games in New Orleans.

Giants at San Antonio Anxious to Get Busy.

SAN ANTONIO, March 1.—After a night of sleep in regular beds, thoroughly rested from the fatiguing cross-country train ride, the world's champion Giants are to-day ready to get into the harness and begin their spring training grind. The whole team, with exception of a few players who are expected to reach to-day from the Pacific Coast, is here, and all members are displaying an anxiety to get out on the field.

The only drawback now is the local weather. It has rained for a week, and added to that the weather is not at all what the Southwest is famous for. It is colder here to-day than it was in New York when the team embarked on its journey. The natives, however, are very optimistic and promise that the sun will be blazing hot in a day or so, and that once the sun does come out the team will be dried up well enough for hard practice.

Catcher Miller Reports To Dodgers' Camp.

(Special to The World.)

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., March 1.—Among the arrivals in the Dodgers camp to-day was Otto "Moonie" Miller, the veteran backstop of the team, who has come here to talk terms with President Charles H. Ebbetts. Miller, who is in good condition, came from Miami, where he sojourned since his return from the barnstorming trip in Cuba. Wallace Hood, outfielder, also reported.

It is the general belief that Miller will be signed soon. The hitch, it was learned from a person intimate with the relations of the Brooklyn club, was on account of a bonus. Ebbetts offered Miller a bonus and a salary, but the catcher refused, demanding a straight salary.

While Miller still has some baseball life in him as reliable as he was some years ago. He still can catch, but his throwing arm has gone back on him and the opposing runners take many liberties while he is catching.

Last year Robbie had expected to use Miller chiefly as a coach and to backstop whenever Burleigh Grimes worked on the hill, but the failure of Ernie Krueger, who was recently disposed of, and Zack Taylor to show big league form made it necessary for Miller to bear the burden again.

Harry Leonard Wins From Battling Mack.

PHILADELPHIA, March 1.—Harry Battling Leonard defeated Battling Mack in a hard and fast eight-round bout at the Ice Palace here last night. It was a return bout, Leonard having beaten Mack two weeks ago.

Everything for Billiards and Bowling. The Brunswick-Balke-Whitely Co., 40 N. 4th St.